

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:994
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2002
IMPACT OF IMPORT OF CHINESE SILK
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that import of silk from China is leading to a lot of hardships to the local farmers due to fall in prices of the domestic produce; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to introduce a level playing field for the Indian farmers vis-à-vis Chinese imports?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has been closely monitoring the imports of raw silk and silk fabrics, and the prices of cocoons and raw silk in the main domestic markets. Though quantity of imported raw silk has not gone beyond the estimated demand supply gap, in view of the increase in quantum over last year, the steadily declining prices, and its effect on the domestic market, Government has initiated investigations to ascertain if statutory provisions need to be invoked to raise tariff barriers. The Central Silk Board has also agreed to the request of Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation (KSIC) to make available to them a soft loan for purchase of bivoltine mulberry cocoons at reasonable prices to mitigate the hardship faced by sericulture farmers and silk reelers, subject to the State Government's Guarantee